



IN LEAGUE REPORTER
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF ST. LOUIS
8706 Manchester Road, Ste. 104, St. Louis, MO 63144
314-961-6869
www.lwvstl.org
July 2009

From the President:

Dear Members and Friends,

It must be July in St. Louis, it is more than hot and humid and it all began before summer officially started. But let me wish each of you a cooler and enjoyable summer. The League will be working to remain cool and get ready for September and the new League year.

The League has always been a place to learn new things, issues, how to do many, many things, including technology. League of Women Voters of the United States (LWVUS) holds a Council meeting every other year made up of two representatives of the states. Due to budgetary and financial constraints for LWVUS and the states, it was decided to have a virtual Council meeting. I was one of the delegates from Missouri. It actually went quite well including questions on budget, a proposed resolution procedure for national conventions and direction to the board. Delegates from across the nation sitting in League offices or their living rooms participated and voted in a budget. In fact you can see for yourself on the League web site if you have speakers on your computer. It is at www.lwv.org then go to Members only/Council Convention and then Council 2009 – Presentation Recording. It is about four hours long and includes speeches by LWVUS President, Mary Wilson and Lloyd Leonard, LWVUS chief lobbyist.

I know many if not all League members have interests in health care, a topic as hot as the weather and is a national priority. LWVUS is taking a survey of it members about health care. If you have not taken the survey you can call the office (314.961.6869) and they can mail you a copy.

In brief the League position is as follows:

“The League believes that quality, affordable health care should be available to all U.S. residents. Other U.S. health care policy goals should include the equitable distribution of services, efficient and economical delivery of care, advancement of medical research and technology, and a reasonable total national expenditure level for health care. Furthermore, the League believes that all Americans should have access to a basic level of care that includes the prevention of disease, health promotion and education, primary care (including prenatal and reproductive health), acute care, long-term care and mental health care.” You can always go to the League web site at www.lwv.org for more details.

Linda C. McDaniel

2009-2010 LWV ST. LOUIS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Newsletter Ed.-Joyce Schuetz

CALENDAR

Fri.	July 3		OFFICE CLOSED (for Independence Day)	
Sat.	July 4	1:00 PM	Naturalization Ceremony	Old Courthouse
Fri.	July 10		IN LEAGUE REPORTER DEADLINE	
Fri.	July 10	10:00 AM	Aim High St. Louis Tour (page 2)	John Burroughs
Tues.	July 14		MO Voter Deadline	
Wed.	July 15	6:00 PM	STL/IS Board Meeting	League Office

IN REMEMBRANCE OF RACHEL HASKELL



Rachel moved to St. Louis about five years ago, following the death of her husband, and to be near her son, Doctor Anthony Fathman and his family. Rachel had been a very active member of the League of Women Voters in Santa Cruz, California. I met Rachel at the First Unitarian Church which she now attended.

Rachel wasn't able to be as active as once she had been, but she remained involved and interested in the League. She regularly attended meetings and fundraisers. She contributed many ideas and loyal support. She became less active a few months ago, when she became more ill.

A memorial service is scheduled for Sunday, July 5 at 4 p.m. in the sanctuary of the First Unitarian Church, 5007 Waterman Blvd., corner of Kingshighway and Waterman. A reception will follow in the Dodson Room.

We are glad for the time she was able to spend with us.

Jeanne Morrel-Franklin

EDUCATION COMMITTEE - AIM HIGH ST. LOUIS TOUR

Tour Date: July 10, 2009

Tour Time: 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Tour Location: John Burroughs School, 755 S. Price Rd. in Ladue (southern entrance off Price Rd.)
Meet inside the door at the main entrance

Reservations: Please contact the League office at 314-961-6869 or email at league@lwvstl.org
(Reservations are suggested so we may have enough tour guides.)

Optional Carpooling: Meet in the back parking lot of the League office at 8706 Manchester Rd.
by 9:30 a.m. (leaving promptly at 9:30 a.m.)

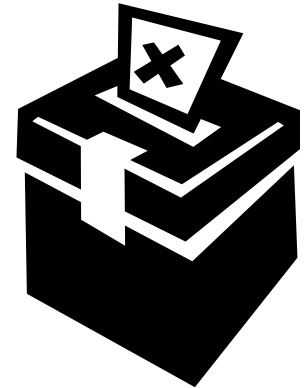
Aim High is a four-year program for middle school students growing up in high risk environments (primarily St. Louis City and Wellston). The summer portion of Aim High is a five-week session aimed at improving the odds of these students achieving success in life. They are engaged by a faculty of teachers from both public and private schools in a challenging academic and personal enrichment program designed to improve students' self-confidence and initiative, in addition to academics. The faculty is helped by high school and college age teaching assistants providing a high degree of personal attention to the students.

The program is in its nineteenth year and takes place at the campuses of John Burroughs School and St. Louis Priory School. The combined enrollment at the two locations is between 250 and 300 students. Further information can be found at www.aimhighstl.org

Marty Rulo, Chair

MISSOURI HOUSING DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION TENANT AFFAIRS BOARD ELECTION

The Missouri Housing Development Corporation is having an election related to their Tenant Affairs Board (TAB) on Saturday, August 1st, 2009 and has asked the League Of Women Voters to supervise the election, so I need 22 volunteers to do half-day shifts on that day, or 11 people to do whole day shifts, plus a few to help count. The election starts at 8 am and runs until 5 pm, so I will split the day into two parts – 8 am to 12:30 and 12:30 to 5 pm. The 11 election sites will be in public housing around the city of St. Louis, and I think it's pretty interesting to see what public housing looks like today in St. Louis. In addition to being a good thing for the League to do, it's a small fundraiser for the local League. Please contact Kathleen Kelly at dkbkmk01@swbell.net or 314-533-3972 to volunteer. Just bring a good book and devote some time to maintaining civil society.



Kathleen Kelly

THE LEAGUE'S ANNUAL TAILGATE SALE IS COMING YOU CAN HELP MAKE THIS YEAR'S SALE - THE BEST EVER!

The St. Louis League's Annual "League in the Loop" Tailgate Sale will be here before you know it. The sale will take place - RAIN or SHINE - on Monday, Labor Day, September 7, 2009.

We NEED your donations. Sale will run from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Clean out your closets, basement, and garage and donate those unwanted items to the League. **Want to be a vendor?** See the ad in this month's In League Reporter. **We also need workers** for set up, selling all our treasures, and clean up after the sale. Bring your items to the League office (314-961-6869), or contact Barbara Elbrecht (314-962-2821), or the Joergers – Denny & Elise – 314-725-4829. If you want to work the day of the sale please contact Barbara 314-962-2821 to volunteer.

Barbara Elbrecht, Chair

BOOKS, BOOKS, BOOKS



We are still accepting more books for the book sale this fall. You may bring them to the League office (314-961-6869) or contact Denny & Elise (314-725-4829) if you wish to drop them off at their home.

Barbara Elbrecht, Chair

MISSOURI WOMEN'S NETWORK 22nd ANNUAL EQUALITY DAY BRUNCH



The Annual Equality Day Brunch will be held on Saturday, August 22, 2009 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Crowne Plaza Hotel 7750 Carondelet in the Crystal Ballroom

Call Shirley Breeze (314-831-5359) or Lynn Roney (314-727-7175) for information.

THE RESULT OF THE NATIONAL POPULAR VOTE STUDY IS IN

The LWVUS has announced the result of the League's one year national study of the National Popular Vote (NPV). Our League participated in this study and consensus.

There were two criteria for the consensus process set at the beginning of the study. The first, that there be participation by 1/3 of local Leagues and participation by 390 of the 766 Local Leagues, was met. The second criterion, requiring 2/3 of participating Leagues to achieve consensus on the use of the National Popular Vote Compact, was not met.

Fifty-percent of the Local Leagues in the country favored the compact, but the remaining 50% were divided between not favoring the compact and not reaching consensus.

In the League, there must be overwhelming support of an issue to say we have consensus. The reasons are that our positions should reflect how members generally view an issue and it is important to have member support to do effective advocacy.

The official position statement for this study is **“The LWVUS affirms its support for the direct election of the president and abolition of the Electoral College, but the LWVUS has no position on the National Popular Vote Compact as currently proposed.”**

There were many problems with this study. Leagues interpreted the consensus questions differently. Of the 25% of Leagues that reported no consensus, the consensus reports did not explain if the League did not come to agreement on the answer or just didn't answer the question. About half the Leagues complained about bias in the questions. As a result of this experience, the national NPV committee recommends that a task force be formed to examine the study and consensus process.

There have been suggestions that the League restudy the compact or take a vote by concurrence or let it die at this point. What the future will bring on the NPV is not known.

Sydell Shayer, NPV study co-chair.



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REFLECTIONS

“Political, but not partisan,” this phrase concludes the delightful video produced by the League of Women Voters in Columbia/Boone County. If you haven’t seen it yet it is worth a trip to You Tube. http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bW_1VwxMtck On the subject of what it means to be non-partisan in the League, I hope you will also enjoy the true/false quiz from LWV Oregon (page 7.)

Our society is becoming more and more polarized as people live, work and associate more frequently with like minded people. Spending time with people who share your political views causes one to become more extreme in those views. Having respectful conversations with people who do not share our views wears off the rough edges and gives us all the opportunity to be more thoughtful and reasoned in our opinions. The League of Women Voters commitment to non-partisan activity provides a rare and endangered opportunity to pursue nuance and explore the territory between those sides divided by a line in the sand.

Anna Mennerick



MAY/JUNE VOLUNTEER CORNER

Thanks to our ever present volunteers who assisted in the office while Anna was on vacation and help things hum on a regular basis. Recent members volunteers include Susan Fluegal, Esther Clark, Jim Clark, Mary Beth Reynolds, Sue Dellbringge, Doris Buzzell, Linda McDaniel, Brenda Banjak, Betty Ann Gilbert, Nancy Bowser, Pat Jones, Janet Fales, Clyde & Verna Creel and Mickey Hall.

Julie Behrens

TRIBUTES AND MEMORIALS

In honor of the marriage of Joyce Guard to Harold Schuetz from Julie Behrens to LWV St. Louis.

In memory of Rachel Haskell from Jeanne Morrell-Franklin to LWV Information Service.

In memory of Carole Stevens from Agnes Garino to LWV Information Service.



SUMMER INTERNS



Suvdmaa Munkhzaya --- Sain baitsgaana uu (means “Hello guys” in Mongolian)! My name is Suvdmaa Munkhzaya and I am an intern at the League of Women’s Voters Joint Office. I am an international student from Mongolia, studying International Relations at Webster University. Since this is my first internship in a foreign country, I am very excited and honored to be applying what I learned in school into practice.

I believe the League’s various activities and positions on different issues would definitely help widen my knowledge and experience in the real world. This summer I will be studying the United Nations millennium development goals and relate the issues to where I came from. In addition, I will help improve the St.

Louis League’s website, which I hope attract more people into the League’s activities and missions. Having these said, I am looking forward to learning from the elders and to the future experience.

Morgan Shayer --- Hi! My name is Morgan Shayer, and I am an intern this summer at the Joint Office. I grew up in St. Louis, but left Missouri to attend Colby College in Waterville, Maine. At Colby, I am studying Government and Environmental Studies. In addition to environmental issues, I am particularly interested in the processes, both formal and informal, that affect the ways in which governments make decisions and respond to the needs of their citizens. I chose to work for the League of Women Voters because I believe it represents what is best about our democracy-

citizens joining together to educate themselves and others about important issues and to inform their elected officials of their positions. This summer, I will be assisting in researching the St. Louis League’s past, particularly in the area of action taken on environmental issues. I will also work to expand the League’s outreach to students at colleges and universities across Missouri. I am especially excited to search through the League archives, and learn about the women who helped fight for my right to vote. I hope to continue their vision of an enlightened and active citizenry through my work with the League.



Note from Anna: Morgan has recruited her sister Hannah Shayer to work on our 100th Anniversary Oral History project. We will hear from Hannah in the August In-League Reporter. Our interns are also helping us to brainstorm and explore ways to connect with college students and recent graduates who may not know about our shared passion for good government. It is wonderful to have these women contributing their time and talent this summer

NO COST FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITY

Attention **Schnucks** Shoppers

Schnucks will donate up to 3% of your purchases to the League’s Information Service. (LWVIS)

It’s as easy as 1 2 3.

1. Pick up a **Schnucks** eScrip card at the customer service counter.
2. Activate the card by calling 800-931-6258. Say your charity is the LWVIS, Group # 500015391 or go to www.escrip.com/schnucks.jsp and follow instructions.
3. Present your card to the cashier for scanning every time you shop at **Schnucks**.

The following is reprinted from the Spring 2009 Issue of the Oregon Voter. It was developed by LWVOR Director Janet Calvert. When giving her permission Janet wanted us to remember that, although the quiz is framed in terms of true and false, it is meant to stimulate conversation around how we implement our non-partisan policies. There will always be opportunities to apply discernment and wisdom to specific situations.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE NONPARTISAN IN THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS?

What does it mean to be nonpartisan in the League? Test your knowledge with this quiz developed by LWVOR director Janet Calvert and presented at LWVOR's fall workshop. (Answers below)

- T F 1.** The League may take action on governmental measures and policies, but it shall The League's reputation for nonpartisanship is our crown jewel. Do you know what it not support or oppose any political party or any candidate
- T F 2.** When a person joins the LWV, that individual should not run for a governmental office, hold an office in a political party or campaign for a candidate.
- T F 3.** The League occasionally supports a candidate for public office if the candidate is a member of the League.
- T F 4.** League members serving on the League Board may indicate their choice of candidates by putting a bumper sticker on their cars or signs in their yards.
- T F 5.** The President, Action and Voter Services chair are more restricted in their political activity than other Board members.
- T F 6.** A League Board member may attend a candidate coffee, but not participate in fund-raiser for a candidate.
- T F 7.** During Voter Service activities (voter registration, get out the vote), the League can also distribute its positions on issues/ballot measures and literature from other organizations agreeing with League's positions.
- T F 8.** Local and State LWV Boards develop their own nonpartisanship policy within the framework of the LWVUS nonpartisan policy.
- T F 9.** While League members may have strong opinions about candidates, office holders or government policies, Board members and unit leaders should try to keep discussions respectful of other points of view.
- T F 10.** During an election year, a League may invite a candidate to speak or be featured at a League event.
- T F 11.** LWV members (other than Board members) are encouraged to actively work in their political party, get involved in supporting candidates, run for office and take part in political activities as individuals, not as LWV members.
- T F 12.** Political activities of a spouse or relative of a Board member are to be considered as separate and distinct from the activities of the Board member.

Answers:

1. True
2. False
- 3, False
4. This may depend on the visibility of the Board member. Also a Board member's partner or children do not give up their right to free speech.
5. True In some communities other positions may be very visible.
6. True? Again, it depends on visibility.
7. False
8. True
9. True
10. False
11. True
12. True, This may be difficult in small communities



Monday, Sept. 7th (Labor Day)
 @ the Loop during the annual bike race
 In University City
 Starts: 7:30 a.m.
 Ends: 3 p.m.

**Voter
 Registration
 on Site!**



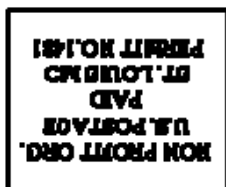
Annual Tailgate Sale

**Come
 Shop
 for Treasures!**

Make Extra Cash!
 Friends, neighbors, churches, organizations -
 Sell Your Stuff @ Our Sale
Buy a Booth!
\$30 each

League of Women Voters of St. Louis—Promoting an Educated & Empowered Electorate
 314-961-6869 or league@lwvstl.org CALL or EMAIL to reserve your booth space!

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF ST. LOUIS
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 SAINT LOUIS, MO 63144

IN LEAGUE REPORTER

